Descriptions of some new species of Criocerini from the Malayan region

by

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Lema Dohrni. sp. nov.

Black, the antennae short and robust, thorax subcylindrical, fulvous, impunctate, elytra fulvous, with remotely placed punctures, which become very fine from the middle downwards, the interstices flat.

Length 7 millim.

Head black, the eyes large and prominent, deeply notched, the supraocular grooves deep, the rest of the surface with some short, white hairs, antennae extending slightly beyond the base of the elytra, black, the fifth and following joints triangularly widened, the terminal two joints of narrower shape, the lower two shining, the second very small, moniliform, the third and fourth equal, shorter than the fifth joint; thorax slightly longer than broad, subcylindrical, the sides moderately constricted below the middle, the anterior portion but slightly widened, the angles obtuse, the basal sulcus shallow, scutellum piceous, elytra with a short and feeble depression below the base, the latter somewhat strongly punctured, the punctures gradually diminishing in size and nearly obsolete below the middle, the interstices flat, lateral margins strongly raised, accompanied by a row of deep punctures, placed in a strong groove, below and the legs black, finely clothed with white pubescence.

Hab. Soekaranda, Sumatra (Dr. Dohrn).

The black head and antennae and the flattened joints of the latter, resembling some species of *Crioceris* in connection with the fine and remotely placed punctures separates this *Lema* from any other of the same region; the species although

mentioned in Dr. Dohrn's list of Sumatran Phytophaga, has not been described owing to an oversight on my part.

Lema Meeki, sp. nov.

Fulvous, the anterior portion of the head, the antennae, the posterior legs and the abdomen black, thorax impunctate, elytra with deep basal depression, strongly punctate-striate, the anterior half fulvous, the posterior one, violaceous.

Length 6 millim.

Head impunctate, fulvous, anterior half black, the eyes but slightly notched, antennae extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the apical joint sometimes fulvous, the joints, with the exception of the second, elongate, the third and fourth equal, terminal ones thickened, thorax very short, the anterior portion greatly widened, with the anterior angles in shape of a minute tubercle, furnished with a single seta, the basal portion strongly constricted, the transverse sulcus very deep, the surface entirely impunctate, fulvous, very shining, elytra with a short but deep depression below the base, strongly punctate-striate anteriorly, the punctures finer behind the middle, the interstices not raised, the anterior half fulvous, the posterior one violaceous, the anterior edge of the latter colour convex, below and the legs fulvous, the thibiae and tarsi more or less piceous, the posterior legs and the abdomen black, the base of the posterior femora fulvous.

Hab. Fergusson Island, (Meek).

Three or four nearly similarly coloured species of *Lema* from the Malayan region are known at present, amongst which *L. atriceps* Baly might easily be mistaken for the species here described, but the following differences will help to separate the two insects: in *L. atriceps* the entire head is black and the anterior half of the thorax is much narrower than in *L. Meeki*, in which this portion is greatly widened laterally; in *L. papuana* Lac. the head and the antennae are fulvous; two similar

specimens are contained in my collection; they seem to represent both sexes, but the posterior femora are unarmed.

Lema Laportei. sp. nov.

Dark bluish, above nearly black, eyes slightly notched, thorax transverse obsoletely bisulcate, sparingly punctured, elytra strongly punctate-striate, the interstices impunctate, costate at the apex.

Length 4 millim.

Head with a few punctures and a short but deep central longitudinal groove, blackish, the eyes but slightly notched, antennae filiform, black, the third joint slightly shorter than the fourth, but twice as long as the second one, the terminal four joints shorter than the intermediate ones; thorax slightly broader than long, moderately constricted at the sides, the disc with an obsolete transverse sulcus near the middle, the basal sulcus more distinct, placed at some distance from the base, the surface finely punctured, the punctures irregularly distributed; elytra with a short depression below the base, rather strongly punctate-striate, the punctures but slightly finer posteriorly, the interstices raised near the apex; below and the legs metallic blue, finely pubescent, the posterior femora rather elongate.

Hab. Java. (Fruhstorfer.)

I know of no other species from the Malayan region with which to compare the present one; the nearly black upper surface and the finely punctured and bisulcate thorax will help to distinguish the insect. A single specimen is contained in my collection.

Lema malayana. sp. nov.

Fulvous, the head, antennae and the abdomen black, thorax broader than long, impunctate, strongly constricted, elytra very finely punctured, the punctures obsolete near the apex.

Length 6 millim.

Head black, impunctate, shining, the space in front of the eyes finely rugose, the latter not deeply but acutely triangularly notched, clypeus shining, smooth, antennae robust, extending slightly beyond the middle of the elytra, black, the third and fourth joint equal; thorax broader than long, the sides deeply constricted below the middle, the basal sulcus very deep, the entire surface impunctate, testaceous or fulvous, scutellum truncate at the apex, fulvous, elytra extremely finely punctate-striate with a single row of deeper punctures near the suture, the apex nearly impunctate, the interstices flat, below and the legs fulvous, the abdomen partly black, the breast smooth, impunctate, tarsi rather robust.

Hab. New Guinea, (South Eastern part).

There are two specimens of this species contained in my collection, which, although evidently representing the same insect, differ somewhat from each other; in one, the last joint of the antennae is fulvous, the elytra are much more strongly punctured and have a slight depression below the base, the last joint of the tarsi also is stained with piceous; this specimen probably represents the female, as it agrees in every thing else; the species may be known by the black head and the shape of the thorax, the anterior portion of which is strongly transverse.

Lema Fruhstorferi, sp. nov.

Reddish-fulvous, thorax impunctate, strongly constricted, elytra metallic dark blue, deeply impressed below the base, strongly punctate-striate, the apex fulvous.

var. Elytra entirely blue.

Length 6 millim.

Head impunctate, fulvous, the eyes deeply notched, labrum black, antennae fulvous, the third and fourth joint nearly equal, the second small, the other joints elongate and slender, thorax scarcely longer than broad, the anterior portion strongly widened, the sides strongly constricted, the basal sulcus very deep, the

surface entirely impunctate, fulvous, scutellum fulvous, its apex truncate, elytra with a deep basal depression, strongly punctate-striate anteriorly, the punctures much finer and more elongate at the posterior portion, the interstices costate at the apex, impunctate, the latter fulvous, below clothed with very fine fulvous pubescence.

Hab. Java (Fruhstorfer).

This species seems most closely allied to *L. constricta* Baly from Sumatra, but differs in the following details: — the antennae have the second joint very short, not nearly equal to the third, the thorax is impunctate as well as the elytral interstices and the posterior femora are shorter (this however is probably sexual). *L. striato-punctata* Lac. is a larger insect and has differently coloured legs.

Lema Dohertyi. sp. nov.

Fulvous, the antennae (the basal two joints excepted) black, thorax impunctate, elytra with deep basal depression, strongly punctate-striate anteriorly, more finely so posteriorly, the interstices impunctate, slightly costate at the apex.

Length 7 millim.

Head impunctate, the space between the eyes strongly raised, eyes moderately deeply notched, labrum black, antennae robust, black, the lower two joints fulvous, the third twice as long as the second, slightly shorter than the fourth joint, the following thicker and elongate; thorax not longer than broad, deeply constricted at the sides, the basal sulcus very deep, the surface entirely impunctate, fulvous, scutellum truncate at the apex, elytra broad, fulvous, with a very faint purplish lustre, deeply impressed below the base, strongly punctate anteriorly, the punctures much finer below the middle, the interstices impunctate, slightly convex at the sides near the apex, below and the legs rather paler, claws black.

Hab. Sumbawa.

Allied to *L. palpalis* Lac., but the palpi not thickened and the elytra with a deep basal depression; named in honour of Mr. Doherty, who so greatly enriched our knowledge of the Malayan fauna.

Lema niasensis. sp. nov.

Black, the head, the basal joints of the antennae and the thorax fulvous, head not constricted behind, thorax not longer than broad, impunctate, elytra dark blue, strongly punctate-striate, the interstices costate at the apex, abdomen fulvous.

var. Below entirely black.

Length 5 millim.

Head impunctate, fulvous, the space between the eyes strongly raised and divided by a deep groove, impubescent, clypeus black, sparingly pubescent, eyes not very deeply notched, antennae slender, black, the lower two joints fulvous, third and fourth joint equal, the following joints elongate and pubescent, extending beyond the middle of the elytra; thorax subquadrate, the sides very moderately constricted behind the middle, the anterior angles obtuse, the basal sulcus deep, the surface entirely impunctate, reddish-fulvous, scutellum fulvous, its apex truncate, elytra with a very feeble depression below the base, metallic blue, strongly punctate-striate, the punctures as usual, gradually diminishing posteriorly, the interstices at the apex costate, below and the legs black, finely pubescent, abdomen fulvous.

Hab. Island of Nias (Thomas), my collection.

This species is quite distinct from similarly coloured species described from the same island, notably *L. Gestroi* Jac. and *L. coromandeliana* Fab. The differences are to be found in the head, which is not constricted behind, in the nearly quadrate and impunctate thorax and in the colour of the underside and legs, the punctuation of the elytra also is much stronger than in *L. Gestroi* and their coloration is not black, but blue; in the variety the abdomen is black, but other differences I cannot find.

Crioceris sapphiripennis. sp. nov.

Fulvous, thorax as broad as long, nearly impunctate, elytra metallic dark blue, the basal portion raised, with a few punctured near the suture, the rest impunctate, apical portion of the posterior femora and the abdomen black.

Length 9 millim.

This species seems so closely allied to *C. Doryca* Boisd., *C. obliterata* Baly and *C. papuana* Jac., all from New Guinea, that it will only be necessary, to point out the differences. The present insect differs from *C. Doryca* in the fulvous colour of the antennae and that of the anterior legs, the antennae also are much shorter and more robust and only extend to the middle of the elytra, the thorax is not longer than broad and has no punctures beyond a few at the middle of the disc, lastly the scutellum is not metallic green but fulvous. *C. obliterata* has a hairy scutellum and the elytra have several large and deep impressions; in *C. papuana* the antennae are black and the underside is fulvous; in the present insect the elytra have a short row of punctures, running from the base obliquely to the suture at the middle and a few others parallel with it at the raised basal portion; the rest of the disc is entirely impunctate, but the lateral margins are accompanied by a deep groove and a few punctures anteriorly.

Hab. New Guinea. Stephansort (my collection).